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13 March 1959

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CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE BULLETIN



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DAILY BRIEF

II. ASIA-AFRICA

OK
Iraq: Local Communists have seized the opportunity provided by the failure of the Mosul revolt to renew pressure on Qasim for the arming of the Communist-controlled Popular Resistance Force, a further purge of the government and army, the execution of antiregime prisoners condemned by the "people's court," and Iraq's immediate withdrawal from the Baghdad Pact. These demands, "which can no longer wait," are being broadcast by the Baghdad radio, which is under the control of a Communist director, as well as by the Communist press. Prominent non-Communist newspapers in Baghdad have been put out of action as the result of the destruction of their equipment by mobs.

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OK Japan: Japanese Socialists, in a victory for the left wing of the party, have decided to form a front with Japan's largest labor federation, the Communist party, and several other left-ist organizations in a nationwide campaign to abolish the US-Japan security treaty. The campaign is likely to generate anti-treaty and anti-American sentiment, although its extreme left-ist sponsorship will hamper its effectiveness. [REDACTED]
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III. SIGNIFICANT INTELLIGENCE REPORTS AND ESTIMATES

(Available during the preceding week)

The Outlook for Iran. NIE 34-59. 3 March 1959.

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II. ASIA -AFRICA

Iraqi Communists Increase Pressure on Qasim Government

The Iraqi Communists are attempting to cash in on the aftermath of the Mosul revolt by reiterating demands which would greatly increase their hold over the Qasim regime. These demands include a purge of the government and army, the execution of antiregime prisoners condemned by the "people's court," the arming of the Communist-controlled Popular Resistance Forces, immediate withdrawal from the Baghdad Pact, and turning over key positions in all departments to those who are "known" to support the present regime and the "only leader" Qasim.

These demands, "which can no longer wait," are continually being broadcast over Communist-directed Baghdad radio, as well as appearing in the Communist press. Iraqi nationalist and pro-Nasir newspapers in Baghdad have been closed, and their printing equipment destroyed by the Communist-directed mob. [Pro-UAR elements are said to be in a state of panic, and former Baathist Minister of Development Fuad Rikabi is in hiding. Many Baath party members have been arrested, and others are preparing to flee to Damascus.]

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[] the arrests have been extended to the army.]

On 12 March, Nasir followed up his anti-Communist speech of the previous day with an even stronger personal attack on Qasim. He expressed confidence that the Iraqi people would not long allow Qasim and his Communist "masters" to keep Iraq out of the Arab nationalist camp. He added that the UAR did not intend to retaliate against Iraqi "provocation," such as the strafing of a Syrian village by Iraqi planes in pursuit of tribesmen fleeing the Mosul area. The UAR nevertheless is reported to have protested strongly to the Iraqi Government over the incident as well as over the ouster of its representatives in Baghdad. The UAR press is attacking Qasim from all angles, including allegations that his aims are in line with the Arab world's number-one enemy--Israel. []

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Japanese Socialists Prepare Campaign Against US-Japan Security Treaty

The Japanese Socialist party has decided to establish a united front with Sohyo--Japan's largest leftist labor federation, the Communist party, and other leftist organizations in a nationwide movement to abolish the US-Japan security treaty. The decision is a marked triumph for the Socialist left-wing opponents and assures that the campaign will be under the leadership of pro-Communist elements. The Socialists hope united opposition to the treaty will be as successful as the earlier joint campaign against the Kishi government on the police-powers bill.

The US embassy doubts that the Socialists can muster as much support against the security treaty as they did against the police bill. The Kishi government, however, already hampered by a division of opinion within conservative party ranks concerning revision of the treaty and its accompanying administrative agreement, probably will not risk a contest with the Socialists in the Diet until conservative unity can be achieved.

Public rallies and demonstrations against the treaty are scheduled to begin on 28 March. If they attract sufficient public support, the Socialists will be encouraged to use extreme measures in the Diet--such as physical violence or boycotting the sessions--when the government does submit the revisions for ratification.

In a related development, Social Secretary General Inejiro Asanuma, a right-wing leader who currently is heading a Socialist mission to Peiping, allegedly told Chinese Communist officials that "American imperialism" is the "common enemy" of Japan and China. The American Embassy in Tokyo believes that Asanuma's statement, unless repudiated, may signify Socialist abandonment of "neutrality" in favor of outright "anti-Americanism."

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